

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated April 15, 2009, and completion of the personal interview of June 3, 2009. The Examiner's observations and suggestions are much appreciated and summarized herein. Claims 1-3, 7-12, and 16-18 are currently pending.

Claims 1-3, 7-12, and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,348,971 to Owa et al. (*hereinafter*, "Owa"), in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0052995 to Idehara, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 7,151,611 to Seseek, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 7,145,678 to Simpson et al. (*hereinafter*, "Simpson"). In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

As discussed during the Interview, the subject Office Action supplements the prior combination with the additional teachings of Simpson to address the claims presented heretofore. Simpson teaches a system wherein printing is disabled when established thresholds are exceeded. Conversely, the subject application allows a user to subjectively decide whether an originally-selected printer is acceptable notwithstanding loading conditions. Such a subjective, user-determined, printing destination, is far removed from a mechanized load balancing system or first-available printer system.

Amendment has been made to each of independent claims 1 and 10 to render all claims more patentably distinct over the art of record. As amended, each claim now includes limitation relative to the subjective determination as to a desired output destination that is determined for a job based on subjective user criteria. This is far removed from an automated system that does not take into consideration factors such as a user's time when a job is needed to be completed, or a balancing of printer location relative to job timing.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/00020.

Date: 6/24/09

Respectfully submitted,



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